

The Smaller Manufacturers' Association of Connecticut

P.O. Box 2025

Waterbury, Connecticut 06722

Phone:(203)-575-0711 Web:www.sma-ct.com Email: admin@sma-ct.com

Testimony of Cyndi Zoldy, Executive Director, Smaller Manufacturers' Association of CT

March 25, 2013

SB-05 Act Concerning changes to Campaign Finance Laws and other Election Laws

I am Cyndi Zoldy, I am the Executive Director of the Smaller Manufacturers' Association of CT (SMA) and I am also affiliated with New Haven Manufacturers' Association, METALS, MAC and the Waterbury Regional Chamber. The SMA represents 135 companies who employ approximately 6,000 employees. Our goal is to advocate for sound business policy for our membership. I am happy to represent my concerns in regard to Section 8 of Act SB-05.

Under this section of the proposed Act, it would impact all membership organizations, such as the ones I am affiliated, and give greater cost to operating said memberships by imposing greater recording requirements. As a volunteer board run association, most members are already stretched thin, giving time to advocate for our business friendly causes.

The membership of the SMA works hard to represent its membership without need to disclose individual businesses and their affiliations with the general public. Aninmity is a benefit of being part of such an organization. Dues paid, maintain general costs associated with distributing governmental concerns for local manufacturing companies and companies that support local manufacturing, there is no clear reason why those dues should be subject to the general public, it sets up as bad precedent.

I feel this bill can lead to a "slippery slope" in releasing this proprietary information that is coveted by organizations like those I am affiliated. I ask you review the options in regard to Section 8 as I believe it could cause serious harm to the SMA and other associations like it.

Best Regards,

Cyndi Zoldy

Written
3/25/13